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## Bibliographical Notes on well known Plants.—X.

BY EDWARD L. GREENE.

RHUS CANADENSIS, Marshall, Arb. 129 (1785).

*Rhus aromatica*, Ait. Hort. Kew. i. 367, and*Rhus suaveolens*, Ait. l. c. 368 (1789).*Betula triphylla*, Thunb. Diss. Betul. 12 (1807).

Although Marshall's descriptions are never clearly diagnostic, still, in the case of this *Rhus* it would seem as if no American botanist could doubt for a moment what bush the man had in view. But the name has always been placed in the synonymy of *R. aromatica* sometimes with,—as often without—a mark of doubt. At the time of his writing there was no other known North American shrub to which his description would apply; and there is no excuse for our continuing to employ the later name *R. aromatica*. Thunberg's grave error in referring the bush to the genus *Betula*, is not more remarkable than that of his master Linnæus, when the latter, as some critics assure us, first published his *Rhus typhina* as a species of *Datisca* (*D. hirta*, Linn. Sp. Pl. 1037).

That Aiton's *R. aromatica* and *R. suaveolens* are one and the same species has long been admitted on all sides; the two names are about equally good, and the uniform retention of the first rather than the second is one of many cases in which authors have, with one consent, recognized the principle of priority of place.

There was an earlier *Rhus Canadensis* of Philip Miller, and this, in days long past, may have stood with some people in the way of the adoption of that of Marshall. But Miller's name is conceded to be a synonym either of *R. glabra* or *R. typhina*. It was a pinnate-leaved species, at all events, and a mere synonym, and cannot therefore stand in the way of the restoration of *R. Canadensis*, Marsh.\*

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\*In the deep cañons of Northern Arizona which lead down to the Grand Cañon of the Colorado, I discovered a few months since an exceedingly interesting shrub which will bear the following name and description:

*Rhus Canadensis*, Marsh., var. SIMPLICIFOLIA. Shrub 3 or 4 feet high, diffuse, slender; leaves an inch long or less, round-ovate, obtuse, nearly truncate at base, coarsely and somewhat evenly crenate, rarely with a very small lobe or separate leaflet on one side below; spikes few flowered, almost capitate.

RUBUS PARVIFLORUS, Nutt. Gen. i. 309 (1818).

*Rubus Nutkanus*, Moç. Seringe in DC. Prodr. ii. 566 (1825).

Publication cannot date from drawings, any more than from manuscripts, so long as they remain mere engraver's or printer's "copy;" and the named drawings of Nutkan plants by Moçino passed into publicity by means of the several volumes of the Prodrômus; hence Nuttall's name for this widely dispersed western *Rubus* must be preferred in place of that now long in vogue, for it has priority of publication by seven years. When the species first became known there were doubts expressed in various quarters as to its distinctness from the eastern *R. odoratus*; but such doubts no longer obtain, although rose-tinted petals lately observed in some individuals of our western and usually white-flowered shrub, and the fragrance of the flowers, not at first noted, together reassert the close affinity.

Along the Californian coast this *Rubus* takes on a firmer texture of foliage, and therewith an almost velvety vestiture of pubescence,—differences quite sufficient to place it in the rank of a named variety. At first it was even regarded as a valid species (*R. velutinus*, H. & A.) and its name should be *Rubus parviflorus*, Nutt., var. VELUTINUS (H. & A.)

GLEDITSCHIA INERMIS, Crantz, Inst. Rei Herb. i. 219 (1766).

The bibliography of this tree, as given at page 110 of volume xv. of this Journal, must be amended in accordance with the fact that Crantz (not Miller), is the real author of this name.

### A New Species of Rhexia.

(Plate XCIX.)

RHEXIA ARISTOSA. Stem square, slender, about 7 dm. high, branching above, entirely smooth; leaves lanceolate-linear and linear-oblong, 2-3 cm. long, 3-6 mm. wide, sessile, erect, obtuse or obtusish at each end, serrate toward the apex with appressed subulate teeth, the lower surface entirely smooth with the three ribs prominent, the upper surface with scattered, subulate hairs and the ribs impressed; flowers 1-3 at the summits of the stem and branches, borne on short peduncles; calyx urceolate, its mouth and linear lobes armed with stiff, yellow, subulate hairs; corolla 4 cm. broad when expanded; petals magenta-red, un-